

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The amendment places the application in condition for allowance and is, therefore, appropriate under Rule 116.

The amendment was not presented earlier because applicant became familiar with new grounds for rejection only after they were first set forth in the final Office Action.

With the present amendment, claims 2, 7-9, 13, 14, and 23 are canceled, claims 24-25 are added, claims 3, 5, 15, 17, 18, and 22 are amended to provide their proper dependency. Claims 18 and 22 are also amended to correct formal errors therein.

Claims 24-25 correspond in scope to claims 9 and 14 which were indicated as being allowable upon having been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claims 24-25, which are claims 9 and 14 so rewritten, are in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 5, 15-18 and 21-22 depend on claim 24, directly or indirectly are allowable as being dependent on an allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place the case in condition for final allowance, it is respectfully requested that such amendment or correction be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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